

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A container comprising:
  - a) a substantially cylindrical tube having a side wall extending upwardly and defining an upper opening; and
  - b) attached about the upper opening, a plastic chime ring comprising:
    - i) an annular upper portion;
    - ii) an outer ring portion; and
    - iii) an inner ring portionwherein the inner and outer ring portions define a U-shaped opening throughout the circumference of the plastic chime ring, and at least one ring portion has a locking mechanism on its inner edge.
2. The container of Claim 1 wherein the locking mechanism is on the outer ring portion of the plastic chime ring.
3. The container of Claim 1 wherein the locking mechanism is a friction lock.
4. The container of Claim 1 wherein the locking mechanism is comprised of a plurality of dimples.
5. The container of Claim 1 wherein the inner ring portion of the plastic chime ring has a curved edge on its outer surface.
6. The container of Claim 5 wherein the curved edge guides the rim of the tube into the U-shaped opening of the plastic chime ring.
7. The container of Claim 1 wherein the inner ring portion of the plastic chime ring further comprises a flange on its inner surface that curves outward.

8. The container of Claim 7 wherein the flange curves outward such that during manufacture it contacts a mandrel of a machine used to attach the plastic chime ring to the tube .
9. The container of Claim 1 wherein the outer ring portion of the plastic chime ring extends adjacent to an outer edge of the tube.
10. The container of Claim 1 wherein the inner ring portion of the plastic chime ring extends adjacent to an inner edge of the tube.
11. The container of Claim 1 wherein the locking mechanism grips an upper edge of the tube.
12. The container of Claim 1 wherein a bottom is attached about the lower opening of the tube.
13. The container of Claim 12 wherein the tube is filled with food.
14. The container of Claim 12 wherein the tube is filled with dry flowables.
15. Apparatus for securing a plastic chime ring to a tube comprising:
  - a) a frame;
  - b) a support means carried by the frame and adapted to respectively carry the chime ring and the tube and maintain the plastic chime ring on the open end of the tube;
  - c) wherein the support means pivotally connects to the frame;
  - d) wherein the support means is adjustable;
  - e) wherein the support means includes a first mandrel disc adapted to be telescopically received in the tube and a second mandrel disc adapted to

be received in both the central portion of the plastic chime ring and the tube ;

- f) wherein the mandrels are of a width to receive a plastic chime ring;
- g) wherein the second mandrel is located at the base of the support means;  
and
- h) wherein the upper portion of the support means is collapsible.

16. A method for attaching a plastic chime ring to a tube comprising:

- a) inserting a plastic chime ring over the support means of the apparatus of Claim 15 such that the plastic chime ring rests on the second mandrel;
- b) inserting a tube over the support means of the apparatus;
- c) securing a preformed bottom to the tube and simultaneously pressing the tube into the plastic chime ring; and
- d) collapsing the first mandrel of the apparatus such that the tube and the plastic chime ring can be removed from the apparatus.

17. The method of claim 16 further comprising filling the tube with food or dry flowables.